

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/IB 03/01059A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06F3/033

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

PAJ, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| X | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2002, no. 07, 3 July 2002 (2002-07-03) & JP 2002 082771 A (RICOH CO LTD), 22 March 2002 (2002-03-22) abstract | 1 |
| A | US 5 869 791 A (YOUNG NIGEL D) 9 February 1999 (1999-02-09) column 6, line 24 -column 7, line 43 | 1-12 |
| A | US 2001/013855 A1 (FRICKER JEAN-PHILIPPE ET AL) 16 August 2001 (2001-08-16) paragraphs '0012!', '0039! | 1-12 |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the International search

16 October 2003

Date of mailing of the International search report

24/10/2003

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Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/IB 03/01059

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|----|---------------------|---|--|
| JP 2002082771 | A | 22-03-2002 | NONE | |
| US 5869791 | A | 09-02-1999 | DE 69616717 D1 DE 69616717 T2 EP 0767991 A2 WO 9633556 A2 JP 10505941 T | 13-12-2001 01-08-2002 16-04-1997 24-10-1996 09-06-1998 |
| US 2001013855 | A1 | 16-08-2001 | CN 1246675 A | 08-03-2000 |